



COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY  
GEORGE SAWCHUK GALLERY  
MARCH 15 TO APRIL 12, 2014

## Ron Pogue

Comox Valley, BC, Canada

photography

# Maple Pool United



In conjunction with...

**But Enough Art, Eat!**

**CVAG STUDIO - MARCH 31 TO APRIL 2, 2014**

interdisciplinary community project

# Maple Pool United

*'If you're playing, you're winning'*

A scorching hot day at Maple Pool Campground. Connie cuts watermelon on a picnic table under a shade tent as a soccer ball sails by her head. Connie remains cool as a cucumber. James, the goalkeeper grabs another ball by the tent and rejoins the game.

Dave gets the errant ball that has headed toward a trailer. This is how Dave helps game in and game out. Cathy sets off on her scooter to recruit a couple of more players for the game while a few others return from a cool dip in the river and get set to rejoin the action.

Maple Pool United grew out of pride of place and a desire for healthier habits. It provides the residents of Maple Pool and others on the fringes of society, the free range people a chance to exercise, socialize, have fun and take part in competition. Many players have said they come away from games with a sense of contribution and hope.

The heart of these get togethers is Maple Pool Campground owner Jin Lin and the meals she provides at the end of every practice. For the first year Jin even played goal for our team including a gruelling seven game, one day tourney in Kelowna.

*Many of the photographs convey  
a focus on the ball, on the game and  
away from a world of trouble*

We have since sent players to consecutive Street Soccer World Championships in Mexico and Poland. This year we hope to send a player to the championships in Santiago, Chile.



Ron Pogue, *Net*, 2013, Photograph, 76 cm x 114 cm  
James' hand behind the veil of his goal net.



Ron Pogue, *Chris, Barnabas & Gord*, 2013, Photograph,  
51 cm x 76.2 cm. Chris breaks away with Barnabas close behind.

Unlike 11-a-side soccer, street soccer involves four-player teams that play on a field about 22 metres long with hockey-size nets. The age range at today's game runs from six to over sixty years old and all different levels of ability. A couple of International students at North Island College from Nigeria have recently joined the group. Ron Pogue's rich colour photographs and austere black and white images capture both the athletic and social aspects of the get-togethers. A photograph of Barnabas in pursuit of a ball, captures a childlike pleasure, another of James as he sits cross legged in net suggests Buddha, the rich colour of a peach in Chris's one hand and a water bottle in the other, sustenance.

Many of the photographs convey a focus on the ball, on the game and away from a world of trouble.

The game continues and if anyone asks: 'What's the score?'

The answer, is simple and the team's motto: 'If you're playing - you're winning!'

- Grant Shilling

Youtube link to the video "*Maple Pool Tournament 2013*" by Matt Rader  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tab4kZWEYkE>

For more info: [www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com/exhibitions/present](http://www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com/exhibitions/present)

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of Ron Pogue's Maple Pool United photographs will be used to help send the players to the Canadian Street Soccer Championships this May in North Vancouver.

In making this project possible, I would like to thank Mary Alice, Matt Rader, Sarah Sullivan, Del Grimstad, Aids Vancouver Island, Comox Rotary, Sure Copy, Tom Grant, Richard Clarke, all my Maple Pool homies, Courtenay Downtown Business Improvement Association and the Comox Valley Art Gallery staff.

A special thank you to Ron Pogue for his enthusiasm and beautiful photographs.

Ron Pogue would like to thank Martin Kaspers for the printing and Phil Whyte for the mounting, Grant Shilling for inviting me and Maple Pool for welcoming me.



Ron Pogue, *Jin*, 2013, Photograph, 51 cm x 76.2 cm  
Jin Lin herself returns an errant ball to play.



Ron Pogue, *James After*, 2013, Photograph, 76.2 cm x 51 cm  
James enjoy a simple meal of curry and rice after the match.

# Maple Pool United

For the past three years a weekly street soccer program that provides an opportunity for people on the fringes of society to exercise, socialize and have fun has been hosted by Grant Shilling and the Dawn to Dawn Action on Homelessness Society at Maple Pool Campground. Comox Valley Photographer Ron Pogue captured dynamic images of these get-togethers and has produced a photo-based series entitled Maple Pool United.

## Ron Pogue

Ron was raised in Wookstock Ontario and then moved to Vancouver Island and studied Photography in Vancouver, he now lives in Cumberland BC. A photographer of daily life, Ron shares an extensive personal visual narrative via social media. [ronpoguephotography.com](http://ronpoguephotography.com)

## Grant Shilling

Grant Shilling is a writer, artist and outreach worker. He has used sport and culture as outreach with diverse populations including the Gaza Surf Club, Maple Pool United street soccer team and skateboarding youth in Ahousaht. He is the author of two books on surfing and has had numerous gallery exhibitions including Open Space, the Vancouver Art Gallery and Grunt Gallery.



Ron Pogue, *Self Portrait*, Photograph



Ron Pogue, *Gord*, 2013, Photograph, 76.2 cm x 51 cm. Gord leaps after the ball despite Doug's defence.



Ron Pogue, *Barnabas' Hand*, 2013, Photograph, 76.2 cm x 51 cm  
Barnabas effortlessly approaches to deliver the decisive kick.

# But Enough Art, Eat!

Interdisciplinary Community Project

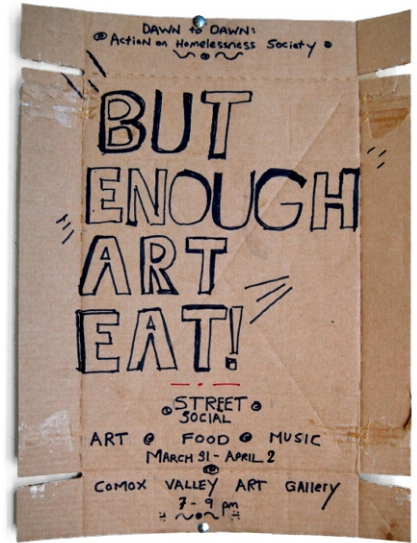
CVAG STUDIO

MARCH 31 TO APRIL 2, 2014

3pm to 9 pm

Facilitated by Grant Shilling,  
in partnership with Dawn To Dawn Society

*What is the role of an art gallery?*  
*Who gets to witness and produce art?*  
*Is there an aesthetic to homelessness?*



*But Enough Art, Eat!* is a unique co-production between the Comox Valley Art Gallery and Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society that explores these and other issues around home, homelessness, the street and art.

*But Enough Art, Eat!* serves as a three-day interdisciplinary forum for community driven discussion and hands-on activities focussed on deeply felt issues around nutrition, homelessness, contemporary art practices, graffiti, food production and music.

Art in the CVAG Studio includes a mixed-media work entitled *Darkness Blankets the City* by Julie Duschenes and Grant Shilling. This work was created for the *Art After Dark* exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery in response to the homeless situation in Vancouver in 1990, and reads: "Art After Dark is Finding A Place to Sleep".

As a means of extending the discussions and fostering community connections and exchange, CVAG's gallery space will be open until 9 pm nightly for informal tours, public talks and demonstrations, during the run of this community event. Ron Pogue's exhibition *Maple Pool United* is presented in conjunction with *But Enough Art, Eat!*

Dawn to Dawn is a non-profit, residential housing program that makes transitional housing possible in the Comox Valley. Dawn to Dawn provides homeless individuals and families with access to housing that gets them (or keeps them) off the streets. <http://dawntodawn.org/photos-videos/>

Grant Shilling is a writer, artist and outreach worker. He has used sport and culture as outreach with diverse populations including the Gaza Surf Club, Maple Pool United street soccer team and skateboarding youth in Ahousaht. He is the author of two books on surfing and has had numerous gallery exhibitions including Open Space, the Vancouver Art Gallery and Grunt Gallery.

*For more information about Grant Shilling see [www.cedarsurf.com](http://www.cedarsurf.com) and [www.surfingwiththedevil.com](http://www.surfingwiththedevil.com)*

# BUT ENOUGH ART EAT!

## Schedule of Events

### MONDAY MARCH 31

- **Art is for Everyone, Art can go Anywhere!**

#### Free Art Workshops

Time: 3pm to 5 pm

Location: CVAG Studio

Instructor: April Dawn Brass

Free daily art classes (donations are welcome)

- **Cooking Demonstration and Meal with Michele Ruttkiewicz**

Time: 5pm to 6:30

Location: CVAG Studio

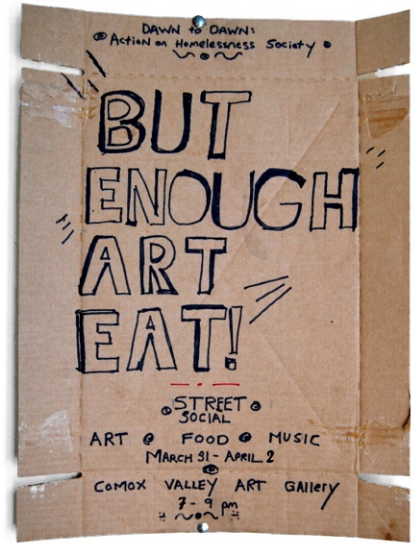
- **Gallery Talk at 7 pm**

**Shilo Gottfried:** Solo Cello performance and

**Amber Dawn:** Reading and Talk

Location: CVAG Contemporary Gallery (Admission is free or by donation)

Amber Dawn is a writer from Vancouver, Canada and author of the memoir *How Poetry Saved My Life: a Hustler's Memoir*, the Lambda Award-winning novel *Sub Rosa* and editor of the anthologies *Fist of the Spider Women: Fear and Queer Desire* and *With A Rough Tongue*. Amber Dawn was the 2012 winner of the Writers' Trust of Canada Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT writers. Until August 2012 she was director of programming for the Vancouver Queer Film Festival. She currently teaches Speculative Fiction writing at Douglas College. [www.amberdawnwrites.com](http://www.amberdawnwrites.com)



### TUESDAY APRIL 1

- **Workshop:** Tough Language, Tender Wisdom: A Memoir Writing Workshop for Brave Voices, with Amber Dawn

Time: 1pm to 3 pm

Location: CVAG Boardroom

- **Art is for Everyone, Art can go Anywhere!**

#### Free Art Workshops

Time: 3pm to 5 pm

Location: CVAG Studio

Instructor: April Dawn Brass

Free daily art classes (donations are welcome)

- **Fast Food First Nation with Cory Frank**

Time: 5pm to 6:30 pm

Location: CVAG Studio

No, not that kind of fast food this meal is easy to prepare and very cost effective, healthy traditional aboriginal food with Comox First Nation chef Cory Frank.

## TUESDAY APRIL 1 (continued)

### - Gallery Talk: at 7 pm

**Randy Frank** (Kwagiulth / Salish) – Carving Demonstration and Talk

Location: CVAG Contemporary Gallery (Admission is free or by donation)

Randy Frank was born in the Comox Valley in 1974. He is the son of Stan & Carol Frank, with ancestors from both Comox and Sechelt. Randy began sketching and drawing designs at an early age, expanding his talents after graduation. He obtained his first formal carving training in 1997 & 1998; Randy first attended a Canoe Building Course with Mervin Childs & Calvin Hunt, and the following year he took a Mask Carving Course with Max Chikite. Randy was drawn into the carvers world and has spent the years expanding his artistic talents carving masks, sculptures, Totems and Traditional Cedar Canoes. [www.facebook.com/RandyFrankWestCoastCarvings](http://www.facebook.com/RandyFrankWestCoastCarvings)

### - Youth Media Project All Star Jam

Time: 8pm to 9pm

Location: TBA

## WEDNESDAY APRIL 2

### - Art is for Everyone, Art can go Anywhere!

#### Free Art Workshops

Time: 3pm to 5 pm

Location: CVAG Studio

Instructor: April Dawn Brass

Free daily art classes (donations are welcome)

### - Guerilla Food

Time: 5pm to 6:30

Location: CVAG Studio

Food and cooking demonstration with Jason Uglanica of the Guerilla Food Company.

### - Studio Event at 7 pm

Location: CVAG Studio

Maple Pool United Night, facilitated by Matt Rader and Grant Shilling

### - DJ J-Prime

Time: 8pm 9pm

Location: CVAG Studio



## MAKE ART PROJECT

### - 3 Day Workshop

Contact Grant Shilling at [outreach@dawntodawn.org](mailto:outreach@dawntodawn.org) if you are interested in participating in this workshop

Julie Duschenes and Grant Shilling,  
*Darkness Blankets the City*, 1990

**GALLERY TALKS:** Join us for gallery talks, conversations, performances and readings.  
Artists, Curators and Cultural Workers share their work, process, vision and inspirations.  
Learn about contemporary cultural practices, ask questions and share your ideas.

**Amber Dawn:** Monday, March 31 at 7 pm - Author of *How Poetry Saved My Life: A Hustler's Memoir*

**Randy Frank** (Kwagiulth / Salish): Tuesday, April 1 at 7 pm - Carving Demonstration and Talk.

**Maple Pool United Night:** Wednesday, April 2 at 7 pm - facilitated by Matt Rader and Grant Shilling.

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ARTS COUNCIL**  
Supported by the Province of British Columbia

We gratefully acknowledge support from the Government of Canada, the Province of BC, British Columbia Arts Council, BC Gaming, Comox Valley Regional District Areas A, B & C, City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Membership, Private Donation and Volunteers



Ron Pogue, *Peach* (detail), 2013, Photograph, 76 cm x 114 cm  
Chris pauses for a drink and a donated peach. Taken during the September session with Maple Pool United.

Ron Pogue, *Martin's Kick*, 2013, Photograph, 76 cm x 114 cm  
Martin kicks up the turf of Maple pool field. Taken during the September session with Maple Pool United.